

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Federal Aviation Administration to establish evacuation
standards for transport category airplanes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. COHEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To require the Federal Aviation Administration to establish
evacuation standards for transport category airplanes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Emergency Vacating
5 of Aircraft Cabin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. EVACUATION STANDARDS FOR TRANSPORT CAT-**
7 **EGORY AIRPLANES.**

8 (a) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 18 months after
9 the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator

1 of the Federal Aviation Administration shall issue a final
2 rule establishing evacuation standards for transport cat-
3 egory airplanes, as described in part 25 of title 14, Code
4 of Federal Regulations.

5 (b) CONSIDERATIONS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—In issuing the final rule
7 under subsection (a), the Administrator shall con-
8 sider factors that include—

9 (A) the ability of passengers of different
10 ages (including infants, children, and senior
11 citizens) to safely and efficiently evacuate a
12 transport category airplane;

13 (B) the ability of passengers of different
14 heights and weights to safely and efficiently
15 evacuate a transport category airplane;

16 (C) the ability of passengers with disabil-
17 ities to safely and efficiently evacuate a trans-
18 port category airplane;

19 (D) the ability of passengers who cannot
20 speak, have difficulty speaking, use synthetic
21 speech, or are non-vocal or non-verbal to safely
22 and efficiently evacuate a transport category
23 airplane;

1 (E) the ability of passengers who do not
2 speak English to safely and efficiently evacuate
3 a transport category airplane;

4 (F) the impact of the presence of carry-on
5 luggage or personal items (such as a purse,
6 briefcase, laptop, or backpack) on the ability of
7 passengers to safely and efficiently evacuate a
8 transport category airplane;

9 (G) the impact of seat size, seat pitch, and
10 aisle width on the ability of passengers to safely
11 and efficiently evacuate a transport category
12 airplane;

13 (H) the impact of seats and other obstacles
14 in the pathway to the exit opening from the
15 nearest aisle on the ability of passengers to
16 safely and efficiently evacuate a transport cat-
17 egory airplane;

18 (I) with respect to aircraft with parallel
19 longitudinal aisles, the impact of seat pods or
20 other seating configurations that block access
21 between such aisles within a cabin on the ability
22 of passengers to safely and efficiently evacuate
23 a transport category airplane;

24 (J) the impact of passenger load (the num-
25 ber of passengers relative to the number of

1 seats on board) on the ability of passengers to
2 safely and efficiently evacuate a transport cat-
3 egory airplane;

4 (K) the impact of service animals (as de-
5 fined in sections 35.104 and 36.104 of title 28,
6 Code of Federal Regulations) on the ability of
7 passengers (including such service animals and
8 their handlers) to safely and efficiently evacuate
9 a transport category airplane;

10 (L) the impact of smoke, darkness, or
11 other factors that diminish visibility in the air-
12 craft cabin on the ability of passengers to safely
13 and efficiently evacuate a transport category
14 airplane; and

15 (M) any other factor determined appro-
16 priate by the Administrator.

17 (2) PASSENGERS WITH DISABILITIES DE-
18 FINED.—For purposes of this subsection, the term
19 “passengers with disabilities”—

20 (A) means any qualified individual with a
21 disability, as defined in section 382.3 of title
22 14, Code of Federal Regulations; and

23 (B) includes any passengers—

24 (i) with a physical impairment, such
25 as passengers who are blind, deaf, non-

1 ambulatory, have limited mobility, or re-
2 quire a wheelchair, walker, cane, brace,
3 prosthetic, or other mobility aid;

4 (ii) whose physical impairment re-
5 quires the use of a medical device to assist
6 with mobility, such as a portable oxygen
7 concentrator; or

8 (iii) with an intellectual, develop-
9 mental or mental impairment.